

Gravitational wave observations of pulsars

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Statement of problem: Triaxial stars: what can we learn?

- Triaxial neutron stars are one of the simplest GW sources imaginable, and have been mentioned often in review articles.
- As shown in figure opposite, many may be detectable by LIGO-type interferometers.
- Suppose we observe gravitational waves from such a source. Do we then conclude:
 1. The crust is strained, or:
 2. The star has a strong internal magnetic field.
- Clearly, to learn anything useful, need to try and find a way of distinguishing between above scenarios.

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